

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): KATO, et al.

Filed: July 12, 2000

For: VACUUM PROCESSING APPARATUS AND OPERATING
METHOD THEREFORPRELIMINARY AMENDMENTAssistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

July 12, 2000

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application, prior to
examination thereof, as follows:IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, delete lines 1-8 in their entirety, and
substitute therefor the following:

-+This application is a Divisional application of
application Serial No. 09/552,572, filed April 19, 2000, which
is a Divisional application of application Serial No.
09/461,432, filed December 16, 1999, which is a Continuation
application of application Serial No. 09/177,495, filed
October 23, 1998, which is a Continuation application of
application Serial No. 09/061,062, filed April 16, 1998, which
is a Continuation application of application Serial No.
08/882,731, filed June 26, 1997, which is a Divisional
application of application Serial No. 08/593,870, filed

H. Brown
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9/12/2000